



The

# GARzette

The Official Newsletter of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society  
February 2016      <http://www.gars.org/>      Volume 25, Issue 2



## GARS First Winter Field Day



Read all about it inside...

# Message from the President

Well, let me leave town for a few days and all sorts of things break out! I want to thank all that were involved in organizing and implementing the last minute Winter Field Day event. Looks like the event went down without a hitch and participation was good. I don't have exact figures yet but many contacts were made and multipliers were acquired. And of course good food was available at all times for participants and guests.

Next up is the Dog Show fundraiser. If you are reading this in time please consider going to the gars.org home page and signing up for a couple of shifts. We need all the help we can get. This event brings much needed funds to both GARS and the Gwinnett ARES group. The long range forecast is looking dry and while the mornings will be brisk the afternoons will be getting into the 50s. I hope to see many of you there and remember, dress in layers and make sure those HTs are charged up.

Our next meeting is February the 9<sup>th</sup> and it is an important one. This will be officer elections. I as well as the existing officer team have agreed to accept another term but it is still important that you show up and cast your vote to show your support. We also have a great program planned. Our own Paul Kelly, W4KLY and Vaden McDonald, NN4K will be presenting. If you want to get into CW these are the folks to listen to. There will be many great tips to help you get going.

Looking back I see this is my 25<sup>th</sup> President's Note! Man how the time has flown and I'm looking forward to another year of serving all of you. We have many events on the calendar for the year. Before you know it it will be time for



"Looking back I see this is my 25<sup>th</sup> President's Note! Man how the time has flown and I'm looking forward to another year of serving all of you. We have many events on the calendar for the year."

the Georgia QSO party, May Madness, Satellites in the Park, Memorial Day Parade, Field Day, and the list goes on and on. Stay tuned and pitch in when you can. There is a lot of work to be done and many rewards and fun to be had.

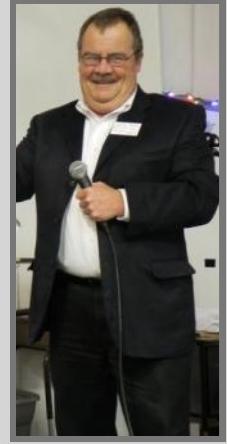
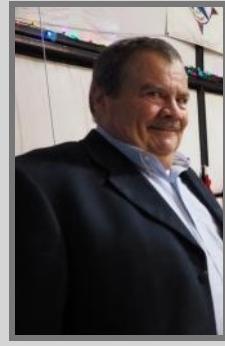
I want to thank you all for your support and hard work. Let's make our 30<sup>th</sup> year as GARS the best yet.

Thanks and 73's,

*Rick Cobb, N4XYY*

***"It is not the class of license the Amateur holds, but the class of the Amateur that holds the license."***

[Author Unknown]



# GARS February Meeting

## “Everything about Morse Code (CW)”

by W4KLY, Paul Kelly and NN4K, Vaden McDonald

Tuesday, February 9, 2015

7:00 pm



- Feb meeting will be the election of officers -  
Nominations are open at Jan. and Feb. meetings.

Sports Aviation Complex - Hangar 1

690 Airport Road

Lawrenceville, GA 30045

[Directions](#)

### INSIDE

- Member QRZ Pages ..... Pg 4
- TechFest Review ..... Pg 5,6
- Winter Field Day ..... Pg 7,8
- Have Radio & Eat ..... Pg 9
- FAR Scholarship ..... Pg 10
- Conversational CW ..... Pg 11
- Beginners Corner ..... Pg 12
- Contesting ..... Pg 15
- Extra Extra ..... Pg 17
- Calendars Of Events ..... Pg 18

### **GARS Communications**

<b>2 Meter Repeater</b> 147.075(+) MHz 82.5 PL Tone	<b>2 Meter Repeater</b> 147.255(+) MHz 107.2 PL Tone
<b>APRS</b> 144.390 -- 1200 Baud W4GR	<b>6 Meter Repeater</b> 53.110 (-1 MHz) No PL tone
<b>D-Star</b> WD4STR 145.060 + (1.4 MHz) 440.550 + (5 MHz)	<b>70 Cm Repeaters</b> 444.525(+) MHz 82.5 PL Tone 442.100(+) 100 PL Tone

**Don't forget  
to support our  
advertisers at the  
back of the  
*GARzette*.**

The *GARzette* is the official monthly newsletter of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society, serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of the Amateur Radio art.

Original articles, art, and photos are invited and encouraged. Previously copyrighted submissions cannot be accepted for reprinting unless permission from the appropriate publisher is provided in writing along with the information being submitted. If reprints are from publications allowing their unrestricted use, please include a copy of the printed permission contained in the publication.

If possible, bring your articles to the monthly meeting in Microsoft Word or rich text (.rtf) or text or HTML format or by e-mail to n4gyn@arrl.net. Artwork can be accepted in most any graphics format and can be submitted via e-mail to the same address. Alternate means of submittal can be arranged when necessary.

In keeping with the Amateur Radio spirit, permission is hereby granted for the reproduction of The *GARzette* articles by other Amateur Radio club newsletters provided that proper credit is given to the individual author and *The GARzette*.

*The GARzette* is published each month with the assistance of Norm Schklar, WA4ZXV who prints copies for distribution at meetings, etc. and Dave Bruse, W4DTR, who distributes the news letter electronically.

Deadline for submissions is the 28th of each month for inclusion in the following month's issue.

For additional information view our Website at: <http://www.gars.org>

Newsletter Editor: Ray Bailey—N4GYN  
770-689-6620 or [editor@gars.org](mailto:editor@gars.org)



# Member QRZ Pages

For a few months we will be featuring the QRZ page of various members of GARS.

This month we are featuring the QRZ page of :

## K4YDB - Charles Corriveau

When you click on the link below you will find this picture of his "shack".

<http://qrz.com/lookup/k4ydb>

Read his notes and get to know him better.  
You'll be glad you did.



Here is an excerpt from his page:

*"My XYL and I like to camp. We go as much as we can. I carry the FT-817ND with me everywhere we go and I really enjoy working QRP. I've upgraded the portable to the Buddipole. Really like it. I also have a smaller antenna that I attach directly to the radio when I backpack with it. ... "*

Watch for another featured GARS member QRZ page in next month's GARzette!

## News, Press Releases, & General Interest

**From ARRL Contest Update for January 27, 2016 (email from ARRL)**

In 1898, a time of great early innovation in radio, [J.C. Bose was working with radio signals at 60 GHz](#). Yes, 60 GHz. Yet we don't see his name mentioned very often. This article summarizes much of his work, and [provides a link](#) to learn more.

---

Ah, 807s! The [quintessential vacuum tube](#).

---

### Shape-shifting Liquid-Metal Antennas

Liquid metals such as gallium, and alloys of gallium (which does not have the toxicity of Mercury) are [being used to make re-configurable, tunable antennas in the laboratory](#). The frequencies discussed by the researchers are 700 MHz and above...

---

As the eastern seaboard of the US digs out from under the Nor'easter this week, consider the finding that [current-carrying concrete could melt snow from roads](#).

---

**To view these links, get your pdf copy of the GARzette here:**  
<http://gars.org>

# TechFest Review

Reposted from: January Georgia on My Mind newsletter

"Great turnout, I thought, for the first Georgia Hamfest in 2016 (Can you believe we are already talking about 2016?). This was, of course, the annual "Techfest" in Lawrenceville. I didn't get to attend any of the forums, but they also had some successful testing. One new ham took the "Triple Crown" (Tech, General, and Extra) so we will likely be hearing from him. The free food was good including the chili cook-off. Nice technical demonstrations and they couldn't quite get the youngsters out of the building at quitting time since they were intent on kit construction. And not lost on us was the celebration of our wedding (Terri KM4JWZ and yours truly) with 3 wedding cakes courtesy of Martha W4MSA (ASM-Youth). It was a damp day, but all was inside and warm."



Winner of the IC-7100:  
Newton White, N4EWT



Winner of the Chili Cook-off:  
Steven Richardson, N4STR



# TechFest Review (cont'd)



By all accounts and feedback, TechFest 2016 was a terrific success. Held January 9<sup>th</sup>, at the Gwinnett Medical Center's Resource Center in Lawrenceville, the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society played host to the ham community by presenting numerous exhibits and forums that showcased our hobby.

As hamfests go, TechFest is unique. It is a non-commercial event, with no entrance fee, no exhibit fee and a free lunch. I believe this allows hams to focus on learning more about the hobby in a low-stress environment. All of the above contribute to the "charm" of TechFest.

We were blessed this year with an abundance of door prizes. The prizes ranged from (6) handhelds to micro-screwdrivers (I won the screwdrivers). I can't thank enough all of the sponsors that donated door prizes. Many hams went home happier having won a memento from TechFest. And of course, the raffle prize ICOM 7100, won by Newton White, N4EWT, closed the show.

Judging from all the empty crockpots, the chili-cook off was a success. This year's winner was Steven Richardson, N4STR. Steven will carry "bragging rights" throughout the rest of the year.



An event, like TechFest, just doesn't happen, so I'd like to take a moment to thank all the GARS volunteers that helped with set-up, tear-down, lunch, registration, VE testing, and the GARS booth. And of course, all of the



clubs and individuals that exhibited and presented forums. We couldn't have done without them.

*Ralph Pickwick, KJ4CNC*

Chairman, TechFest 2016

# Winter Field Day

Not only did we have a good time and plenty to eat, but we had 4 HF stations and 2 V/U stations up and operating in less than 2 hours. These were HF dipoles up about 25 ft. Scattered out in a large field. We made SSB, PSK, CW contacts all over the states and some DX. The computers were networked. I don't have the sign in sheets, but I'm guessing over 40 attended at one time or the other. GARS and Gwinnett ARES make a great team for providing communications. Another show of how Amateur Radio can be there when needed. A very well organized event.

Norm, WA4ZVY



It was a great one for our club. GARS/W4GR had fun. Thanks to Dave W4DTR for organizing our part in this.



Breakfast at Golden Corral



See this  
Video  
[HERE](#)



# Winter Field Day (cont'd)

**It started a week before...** as we sat around after the regular GARS breakfast at the Golden Corral. Someone asked if anybody was going to participate in the Winter Field Day next weekend. Then someone posed the idea that we do something as a club. Dave Bruse (W4DTR) and John Davis (WB4QDX) jumped in and started getting the ball rolling. Dave really took on the responsibility and in good GARS tradition, got a bunch of the regulars involved and within one week, GARS was ready to join with others across the country in a Winter Field Day.

Winter Field Day (WFD) is a relatively new idea that started by SPAR (Society of the Preservation of Amateur Radio) nine years ago to take the idea of setting up a demonstration of emergency communications, as has long been done by the ARRL's summer field day over the many years, but in the dead

of winter! Their thoughts were if emergency communication is necessary, it very well may be needed in the worst conditions.

Considering that this was our first WFD and arranged on such short notice, we decided to take a more moderate approach, we were able to get the use of the EAA [Experimental Aircraft Association] hanger, where GARS regularly meets each month. As it turned out, here in Atlanta we were blessed with much more agreeable weather than many others located further north, so weather was not a concern. So in keeping with the rules, we operated as MI - Multi Indoors.

We lined up four stations—two voice, one CW and a digital station. Larry Whited (AB4NX) brought his rolling go-box and provided a fifth station, used mostly as VHF/UHF talk-in as well as contacts for the contest. Fortunately, we had much of the antennas and other equipment from previous GARS well developed summer Field Day deployments.

One of the significant differences between our summer Field Day sites and the airport is the lack of trees for antenna supports. Solution? Military tripod poles! Several members brought theirs and we setup five and hung the necessary an-

tennas in about an hour and a half.

Of course, any GARS event such as this almost always includes food. Hot dogs and pizza were complemented by some wonderful contributions from some members who supplied soup, chili, brownies, various cakes, and waffles. All this food was matched with our normal good fellowship.

Fortunately, the propagation was good and we racked up a good score. We were able to make contacts on 80meters through 70cm; using ssb, cw, and digital modes. We were able to log close to 350 QSOs in 19 different combinations of band/mode. The activity overnight was very quiet so the three of us who did stay all night made some contacts as far away as Hawaii. But in the morning, as people started to arrive back at the hanger, the fellow hams across the country got back on their radios and we got busy again.

One of the more exciting parts of Field Day and other group activities is watching new hams getting on the air and experiencing Amateur Radio to a higher, more exciting level. Also, hams getting a chance to try new things, such as digital. Winter Field Day was no exception.

For an event put together in one rather short week, GARS demonstrated our usual enthusiasm and organizational skills. It was a fun weekend that again showed one of the reasons why GARS was chosen as the Dayton Hamvention Club of the Year 2014.



# Have Radio & Eat It Too!

Hi all,

My birthday was January 7 and my mom always makes and decorates a cake! This year, per my request, she made me a pretty accurate version of my newly working HF radio, the Yaesu FT-757GX! She even put the mic on top and a Morse Code key in front! Both modes I have used. I thought you all might enjoy seeing it. :) It was so fun and the perfect representation of all the delight ham radio has brought me this past year.

73,

*Ruth*, KM4LAO



HAPPY BIRTHDAY RUTH!

# FAR Scholarship Info

## 2016 Foundation for Amateur Radio Scholarship Information

The Foundation for Amateur Radio, Inc., will be administering a total of 46 scholarships, worth an aggregate of \$71,000 for the coming 2016/2017 academic year. The scholarships range in value from \$500 to \$5,000 each.

All applicants must meet the following minimum requirements:

Hold a valid US or foreign amateur radio license,

Be enrolled, or have been accepted for enrollment, at an accredited university, college or technical school.

Applicants who attend a school located outside of the United States must provide a brochure describing the school.

A complete list of the scholarships being offered may be found at:

### 2016 Far Scholarship List

(This list was updated 2 Jan 16)

Note that students do not apply for specific scholarships. Instead, each application will be considered for all of the scholarships for which the students are qualified.

*In order to be considered for the **Chichester** and **QCWA** scholarships, applicants must obtain the appropriate recommendations. Instructions for obtaining those recommendations may be found in the form, itself.* These 16 scholarships are worth \$23,500 in aggregate.

The 2016 FAR Scholarship application form may be accessed at:

### 2016 FAR Scholarship Application

Applications must be submitted by **April 15**. The form may be edited until **May 7**. We realize that some schools do not announce acceptances until May 1, so we are giving students the time to update their application in order to enter that information

The application form data goes directly into an encrypted, password protected PDF file that is available only to the review committee. No part of the application is stored on-line.

Questions about the scholarship process should be emailed to [farscholarships@gmail.com](mailto:farscholarships@gmail.com).

# Conversational CW

## KB6NU's Ham Radio Blog

### Gab away in Morse this February

Posted: 19 Jan 2016 01:45 PM PST

*This just in from Bruce, N7RR. Looks like fun to me....Dan*

Based on a program begun by Stan Schmidt N7OC at the **Mount Baker Amateur Radio Club** in Washington State, we're continuing the month-long February operating event that encourages conversation using Morse code. Most operators will use regular CW mode on MF and HF frequencies, but sending Morse tones via FM is fine, too.

Call **CQ GAB**.

Gabfest is not a contest, so any Amateur Radio band or combination of bands may be used. There are only two required exchange elements:

1. Call signs
2. USA zip codes or Canadian postal codes or Maidenhead grids if away from civilization or outside of the United States or Canada.

You need to log:

- Date and time in UTC of the **start** and **end** of each QSO, e.g. 2016-02-14-1315
- Band, e.g. 80 m
- Output power, e.g. 3 W or 55 W or 400 mW

There are four entry classes:

- **QRPp**: 1 W or less output
- **QRP**: 5 W or less output
- **QRO**: more than 5 W output
- **QROo**: more than 100 W output

If you operate in different classes, submit separate logs for each class. Don't forget to include your **full name** and **email address** with each log.

The object is not to accumulate long lists of quick QSO's. Those are contests. The point is to use your time for gabbing. Gabfest begins at 2016-02-01-0001 Z and ends at 2016-02-29-2359 Z. Spend as much time as you are able during the month of February gabbing in Morse code.

You are welcome to add **notes** for each contact and a **soapbox** at the end of your logs.

**Deadline:** Submit your logs in any convenient format to the Morse Gabfest Honcho, Bruce Prior, N7RR, [n7rr@hotmail.com](mailto:n7rr@hotmail.com) by 2016-04-01.

**Note:** You don't need to know Morse code in order to participate in the N7OC February Morse Gabfest. There are computer programs which both decode Morse code and display what is being sent and then you can use a computer keyboard to send Morse. The higher-end Elecraft transceivers come with a computer program which does those things. There is lots of Morse decoding and sending **software available** for free or for little cost. Maybe you'll have so much fun gabbing in Morse code that you'll want to learn to decode Morse code by ear and to send it with some device like a paddle plugged into an electronic keyer.

73 and happy gabbing, Bruce Prior N7RR

The post **Gab away in Morse this February** appeared first on **KB6NU's Ham Radio Blog**.

# Beginners Corner

## Etiquette on the Air – “Netiquette”

I tune into a lot of nets, both on HF and VHF/UHF. Some of us can use a refresher on how to conduct ourselves on a net. A VHF/UHF net is usually, but not always, conducted on a repeater. When first getting on the net, it is important that we key our radio, hesitate for a second, and then speak. I was listening to a net recently and several operators were keying their radios and then giving out their call signs immediately. The result: those listening only got half of the call signs. The Net Control then had to ask the individuals to repeat their call signs. During a training or on a social net, it might not be so bad, but on a real-world net, lives may be saved by not having an operator repeat his or her call sign. ‘Nuff said.

If you have no traffic for the net, you do not need to say “no traffic” when calling in. Just give your name, location, and call sign, and then stand by for Net Control instructions.

When checking into a net, say, “This is,” Un-key your mike, and listen for anyone else talking. If you hear no one else, re-key your mike, give your call sign, name location and any other pertinent information. When you give your call sign, be sure to give it both numerically and phonetically. For example, if I were giving my call sign, I would say, K-J-4-C-M-Y, Kilo Juliet Four Charlie Mike Yankee.” Notice that I used the ICU Phonetic Alphabet. This is standard throughout the world. It is so much easier to use the ICU Phonetic Alphabet than some made-up words to represent your call sign. You might hear some saying, “Kilowatt Mudslinger nine Germany Orlando Zorro.” When I hear that, it takes me twice as long to decipher a call sign. Is the prefix “Kilo” or “Kilo Watt?” Does Germany begin with a G or a J?

**There is one exception to this rule!** If the net Control Station cannot decipher your call sign because your signal is very weak and barely readable, then go ahead and give a fancy phonetic call sign after the second or third attempt to communicate. However, this would be only as a last resort.

**Listen, listen, listen!** On some nets, there may be a pile-up. On a repeater, “doubling” as it is called, creates a funny sound, and only one operator wins. This is where patience is needed. It seems that on some nets, everyone wants to check in right at the beginning of the net. The key is to wait for at least a second before trying to check in. By the way, this was how I was able to snag a QSO (contact) with K1N, the DX station on Navassa Island, one of my most prized QSOs.

Listen to Net Control’s (NCS) instructions! Most nets are directed. That means everyone should only talk with the Net Control operator. If you need to speak directly with another station, ask permission from the NCS. I am on one VHF net where time is given for stations to talk directly with one another without going through NCS. This, however, is not common.

Most nets have an Alternate Net Control Station (ANCS). This is a second operator who is taking notes of which stations have checked in. He or she will be ready to take over NCS duties should the NCS be unable to continue. In a real world emergency, the ANCS may spell the NCS to give him or her a much needed break. Of course, we would give the ANCS every courtesy that we would give to the NCS.

Can I run a net? GARS is always looking for volunteers to run nets. The first time you run a net, you might be a bit apprehensive, but the second and third time you run one, it will seem natural to you. Go to the GARS web site (<http://www.gars.org/w4gr>) and you will find a copy of the net scripts. Download the script document and rehearse it a couple of times. Notify KK4TKJ, the net manager, at [chuckm39@email.com](mailto:chuckm39@email.com) and tell him you would like to volunteer to run a net. Try it! It is a lot of fun.

73 de KJ4CMY, *David Harden*.



# GARS Membership Page

## New GARS Members in January

**David Carmichael (KM4GBI)  
Delmar Mc Cue (KM4JKM)  
Cynthia Rush (KM4NKZ)  
Bryan Spear (KM4QHG)  
Walter Wharton (KM4OND)**

## New Members: 5

**Total Members as of February 1, 2016  
- 274-**

**Join us for our weekly  
breakfast gathering at  
7:30 AM most Saturdays  
at**

**Golden Corral  
2155 Riverside Parkway  
Lawrenceville, GA 30043**

**[\(Directions\)](#)**

**The following members are  
celebrating birthdays  
in February:**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!  
From All of Us at GARS**

**Marvin Atherton (KG4FHB)  
Lauren Atkin  
Antoinette Bigham (KK4WOB)  
Luis Castellanos (KA3C)  
Michael Curtis (KK4WWB)  
Manuel Dominguez (N5JMD)  
Eddie Foust (WD4JEM)  
Sandy Jackson (KJ4DRO)  
Suzy Jones (KK4MWC)  
William Kelly (W4WNK)  
James Knight (KK4JJB)  
Dale Lynch (AE8DL)  
Philip McCleary (N4LNE)  
Carlton McPherson (WA4ZUW)  
Robby Nelson (KK0BSA)  
Yoshiaki Ogane (ND1Y)  
Rick Pawlowski (KK4MNU)  
George Sensibar (W9RR)  
Hadassah Silva (KK4TGR)  
Donald Silva (NX1Q)  
Julio Sorto (KM4ONA)  
Arthur Stone (KT4LS)  
Michael Swiderski (K4HBI)  
Richard Tooke (KB4DL)  
Juan Villa (KM4EAM)**

## GARS MEMBERSHIP

Your current GARS membership status is shown in the monthly newsletter e-mail  
towards the bottom of the message.

To become a GARS member, or to renew your GARS membership, please visit our website—<http://www.gars.org>

To make changes to your GARS membership (moved, new e-mail address, new phone number, etc.),  
please e-mail the Membership Committee - [membership@gars.org](mailto:membership@gars.org)

You can **renew or update** your Amateur Radio license information with the FCC at their website for free  
<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/index.htm?job=home>

To update your ARRL information, please visit their website - <http://www.arrl.org>

Membership Chair: Karen Albritton, KI4HPP  
Committee Members: Dave Bruse, W4DTR, Pam Meridy, WB1AKQ

# Net Managers Corner

## Monday Night 2 Meter “Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net”

### GARS NEEDS MEMBERS TO SERVE AS NET CONTROLLERS

**GARS is a great Amateur Radio service club** and we have the membership and awards to prove it. Our club is a very busy and active club and we use the Monday night net to get the information out to our members. Weekly participation is needed to make our net function well. There is only a small group of very dedicated people that make the net happen each week, and we need more members to volunteer to serve as Net Control Stations (NCS) on a rotating basis.

Out of almost 300 members, there are only twelve primary people who serve as NCS for the GARS net every Monday night. In no particular order, they are:

Norm - WA4ZXV	Kyle - W4KDA	Mitch - N0DIM
Hal - W4IGE	Don - KW4AL	Ray - N4GYN
Sandy - KJ4DRO	John - WB4QDX	Bill KK4AUA
Kevin - KK4WOG	Chuck - KK4TKJ	Charles - N4CEA

As GARS Net Manager (Chuck KK4TKJ), I need 30 people to fill NCS positions. I do plan to post the schedule months in advance. Any conditions will be accommodated that you, as a rotating NCS, need to place on the scheduling of your duties. If your plans change, I can make adjustments for the schedule to work, and I will make those changes happen as soon as I am notified of a problem. As Net Manager, I also send out reminders each week to let the NCS scheduled know he or she is NCS for the next Monday night net. In short, serving as a rotating NCS is a small duty but a great contribution to the club. The “Want, Swap, Sell Information Net” begins promptly at 19:30 every Monday night and runs about 45 minutes. As a scheduled NCS, you will request the assistance of a volunteer alternate NCS each time you have Net Control. Your simple duties will be to tune in to the GARS repeater, read the script, take a few notes and forward the information to me for record keeping.

Please lend a hand and contact me at KK4TKJ@arrl.net. Sign up to help support the effort that makes GARS the great club that it is.

73 and see you on the Nets!

*Chuck McCord.* KK4TKJ Net Manager



**Don't miss the “KNOW IT ALL” Net  
Wednesday nights, 8:30-9:30 pm**



We have moved to a new format. We begin with current events and announcements. Then we Introduce New Technology. Then we have check-ins and general discussion. Post net is Rag Chew format.

*Jeff*—AB4HF

Everyone is having great fun on this net! Come join us and become a “KNOW IT ALL”.

**TIME: 8:30 every Wednesday evening on the GARS repeater - 2m 147.075 + PL 82.5**

## ARRL CONTESTING INFO

### From ARRL Contest Calendar

>>> NOTE: For more information click the links <<<

#### February 2016

- 8-12 [School Club Roundup](#)  
20-21 [International DX – CW](#)

#### March 2016

- 5-6 [International DX– Phone](#)

#### April 2016

- 17 [Rookie Roundup – Phone](#)

#### June 2016

- 11-13 [June VHF](#)  
18 [Kids Day](#)  
25-26 [Field Day](#)

#### July 2016

- 9-10 [IARU HF World Championship](#)

#### August 2016

- 6-7 [August UHF](#)  
20-21 [10 GHz & Up – Round 1](#)  
21 [Rookie Roundup – RTTY](#)

#### September 2016

- 10-12 [September VHF](#)  
17-19 [10 GHz & Up - Round 2](#)  
24-25 [EME - 2.3 GHz & Up](#)

#### October 2016

- 17-21 [School Club Roundup](#)  
22-23 [EME - 50 to 1296 MHz](#)

#### November 2016

- 5-7 [Nov. Sweepstakes – CW](#)  
19-21 [Nov. Sweepstakes – Phone](#)  
19-20 [EME - 50 to 1296 MHz](#)

#### December 2016

- 2-4 [160 Meter](#)  
10-11 [10 Meter](#)  
18 [Rookie Roundup-CW](#)

## HAMFEST CALENDAR

### Southeast US

**02/06/2016 | [South Carolina State Convention \(2016 Charleston Hamfest\)](#)**

**Location:** North Charleston, SC  
**Type:** ARRL Convention  
**Sponsor:** Charleston Amateur Radio Society  
**Website:** <http://wa4usn.org>

**03/04/2016 | [Alabama Section Convention \(BirmingHamFest\)](#)**

**Location:** Birmingham, AL  
**Type:** ARRL Convention  
**Sponsor:** Birmingham Amateur Radio Club  
**Website:** <http://birminghamfest.org>

**04/23/2016 | [Waynesboro Hamfest](#)**

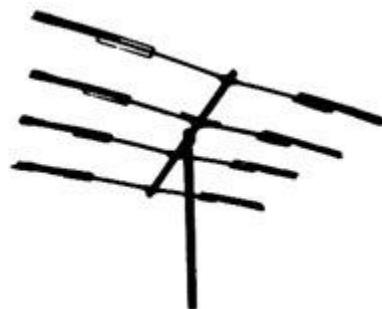
**Location:** Waynesboro, GA  
**Type:** ARRL Hamfest  
**Sponsor:** Burke Amateur Radio Club  
**Website:** <http://waynesborohamfest.com>

**04/23/2016 | [Calhoun Hamfest](#)**

**Location:** Sugar Valley, GA  
**Type:** ARRL Hamfest  
**Sponsor:** Cherokee Capital Amateur Radio Society  
**Website:** <http://www.k4woc.com>

**06/04/2016 | [Georgia Section Convention \(Atlanta Hamfest\)](#)**

**Location:** Marietta, GA  
**Type:** ARRL Convention  
**Sponsor:** Atlanta Radio Club (W4DOC) & Kennehoochee Amateur Radio Club (W4BTI)  
**Website:** <http://www.atlantahamfest.com>



## BSA Venture Crew 73 Wants You!

IF YOU are between 14 and 21 years old, enjoy outdoor activities, and have an interest in radio technology,  
**Venture Crew 73 is for you.**

- Venture Crews are part of the Boy Scouts of America.
- *Venture crew 73 is chartered by the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society.*
- Venture crew 73 is coed.
- *Meetings are on the second Tuesday of the month, 7:00 pm, at EAA 690 Hangar at:  
Briscoe Field - Sports Aviation Complex  
Hangar 1, 690 Airport Road  
Lawrenceville, GA 30045*
- Crew 73 is a youth-run organization, which means that our Crew President and other youth plan the Crew's outings and activities each month.

We enjoy:

- ◊ Camping
- ◊ Hiking
- ◊ Horseback Riding
- ◊ Shooting Sports

- Crew activities usually mix high adventure and the use of Amateur Radio.
- For more information, attend our next meeting or contact:

### Steve Back, WB2OGY

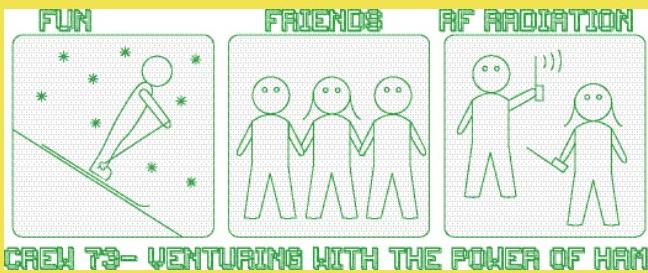
Venture Crew 73 Committee Chairman  
Phone: 770-712-9069

E-mail: [committeechair@venturecrew73.org](mailto:committeechair@venturecrew73.org)

### Ryan Girard, KG4WPB

Venture Crew 73 Advisor  
Phone: 770-508-3650

E-mail: [rgirard@knights.ucf.edu](mailto:rgirard@knights.ucf.edu)



## G A R S Officers and Committee Chairs

Rick Cobb, N4XYY  
President



Mike Weathers, ND4V  
Vice President



Nick Doemland, AB4CQ  
Secretary



Sid Weaver, N4NQ  
Treasurer



Nick Nikley, N0NCQ  
Program Manager



Karen Albritton KI4HPP  
Membership Chair



Dave Bruse, W4DTR  
Ham Exam Team Leader



David Adcock, KA4KKF  
Webmaster, Field Day Chair



Dorothy Jubon, N2DLJ  
Public Information Officer



Ralph Pickwick KJ4CNC  
TechFest Chair, Apparel Mgr



Ray Bailey, N4GYN  
GARzette Editor



Jeff Cutchins AB4HF  
Multimedia Chair



John Ackermann, N8UR  
W4GR Trustee



Eddie Foust, WD4JEM  
Repeater Chair



Ralph Pickwick, KJ4CNC  
Education Chair



Mike Weathers, ND4V  
WAS-Checker, Historian



Chuck McCord, KK4TKJ  
Net Manager



Mike Swiderski, K4HBI  
Technical Advisor



Mitch Matteau N0DIM  
Winter Field Day



### DIRECTORS

Kyle Albritton W4KDA



David Adcock KA4KKF



Norm Schklar WA4ZXV



## EXTRA! EXTRA!

### FEBRUARY MEETING

"Everything about Morse Code (CW)"  
by W4KLY, Paul Kelly and NN4K, Vaden McDonald

### MARCH MEETING

"A peek into Radio Astronomy"  
by K4CSO, Charles Osborne

### Repeater Status

147.075 operational in Snellville  
147.255 operation in Snellville  
444.525 operational in Snellville  
Link remote receivers being added  
442.100 operational at Goshen Springs  
145.590 operational at Bogan Road  
6M currently down

**L&M Mobility**  
Robert (Mike) Smith  
5191 La Paloma Dr.  
Lilburn, GA 30047  
Phone (404)-509-3104  
[Smithrm70@hotmail.com](mailto:Smithrm70@hotmail.com)

**SERVICE & REPAIR**  
Power Chairs • Lift Chairs • Scooters

### GARS Recurring Calendar

- ◆ Monthly club meeting is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 7 pm
- ◆ Every Monday at 7:30 pm: GARS Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net + 8:30 pm: ARES Training on the GARS 147.075 MHz repeater
- ◆ Every Wednesday at 8:30 pm: GARS Know It All Net on the GARS 147.075 MHz repeater
- ◆ Every Saturday at 7:30 am: GARS Weekly Breakfast, Golden Corral Restaurant, Riverside Drive, Lawrenceville
- ◆ Second Sunday at 2:00 pm: GARS Ham Exam Session, Fire Station #24 2735 Mall of Georgia Blvd Buford, GA 30519

## JANUARY MEETING MINUTES

Rick, N4YXX, called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

First time visitors were welcomed and roundtable introductions were made. Ticket upgrades were recognized:  
Attendance: 63

### General Business

Sid, N4NQ, gave the treasure's report. Voting took place and the treasurer's report was approved.

- NOTE:\$13,575.00 donation received from the Newman Family from Rick Newman's Silent Key estate sale.  
*Sid to order a brick for the ARRL courtyard in Rick Newman's name per the family's request (\$250.00).*  
*Alford Memorial President Steve Garrison, N4TTY presented GARS with a donation of \$1500.00 for our participation at Stone Mountain Hamfest*

Karen, KI4HPP, gave the membership report:  
GARS has 287 members.

Nick, N0NCQ, Program Manager announced that Paul Kelley, W4KLY and Vaden McDonald, NN4K will be presenting "Everything about Morse Code" at the February 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### Future Programs

- March 8<sup>th</sup> – “A peek into Radio Astronomy” by Charles Osborne, K4CSO
- April 12<sup>th</sup> – “EME, Earth-Moon-Earth Communication” by Ray Rector, WA4NJP
- May 15<sup>th</sup> – “Field Day Preparation” by David Adcock, KA4KKF

### Event Recaps & General Updates

#### Christmas Party

Check out the pictures on the GARS Facebook page to see what good time we had at the annual Christmas party. Rick, N4XYY or president hinted that something special is in the works for the 2016 event.

#### Ham of the Year 2015

Kyle Albritton, W4KDA received much deserved recognition for his tireless efforts and dedication spent making GARS the premiere club that it is.

#### Techfest 2016

Is there a better way to start the New Year, than with Techfest? I think not! Congratulations to Ralph, KJ4CNC for coordinating yet another successful event. **Stephen Richardson, N4STR was crowned Chili Champ for 2016 and Newton White, N4EWT won the Grand Prize Drawing and took home an ICOM 7100.**

Rick, N4XYY and Nick, N0NCQ presented Will Jourdain, KI4VXF with a certification of appreciation for his presentation on the ICOM IC7851.

#### Upcoming Events

Cherokee Rose Cluster Dog Show Date: February 4-7, 2016 Time: 6:00 am to 2:00 pm Location: Atlanta Expo Center – 3650 Jonesboro Road, Atlanta, GA

Meeting concluded around 9:00pm

*Nick*, AB4CQ, Secretary

## Extra Extra

Contributed by:  
Bill Cherepy, WB4WTN



**Back in the day, for a plugger to be involved in "social media," he first had to pass the ham radio license exam.**

## GARS Calendar of Events for 2016

- GARS Breakfast, every Saturday morning
- GARS Ham Exam Session - 2nd Sunday every month
- ATL Science Festival March 26
- HamCram (Technician) March 26
- Georgia QSO Party April 9 - 10
- North metro area Fox Hunt April - TBD
- May Madness May - TBD
- Satellites in the Park May 21
- Memorial Day Parade May 30
- ARC/KARC Hamfest - 1st Saturday of June
- Field Day June 25 - 26
- W4GR Spcl Event - 40th Anniv. Sept. - TBD
- Maker Faire - 1st Weekend of October
- Sept VHF/UHF Contest Sept 10 - 12
- Stone Mt. Hamfest November 5 & 6
- JOTA - 3rd Weekend of ... October 15

### GARS CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR FEBRUARY 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4 <b>6:00 am-2:00 pm DOG SHOW</b>	5 <b>6:00 am-2:00 pm DOG SHOW</b>	6 <b>6:00 am-2:00 pm DOG SHOW</b>
7 <b>6:00 am -2:00 pm DOG SHOW</b>	8 8:00 - 8:30 pm GARS 2m Net	9 5:00 - 6:30 PM Dinner at Flying Machine 7:00 -9:00pm GARS Meeting	10 8:30 - 9:30 pm GARS Know-It-All Net	11	12	13 7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive
14	15 8:00 - 8:30 pm GARS 2m Net	16	17 8:30 - 9:30 pm GARS Know-It-All Net	18	19	20 7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive
21	22 8:00 - 8:30 pm GARS 2m Net	23	24 8:30 - 9:30 pm GARS Know-It-All Net	25	26	27 7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive
28	29 8:00 - 8:30 pm GARS 2m Net		8:30 - 9:30 pm GARS Know-It-All Net			7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive

Metro Testing Sessions	Ham Exam Results	Metro Club Meetings
<p>GARS publishes Metro Atlanta VE exam schedules as a service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions. Find additional sessions online at <a href="http://www.arrl-ga.org">http://www.arrl-ga.org</a>.</p> <p><b>First Sunday, ODD Months</b> 2 pm (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, &amp; Nov) VEC: WCARS Braselton Public Utility Building 4986 Highway 53, Braselton, GA Roger Gibson, WB4T (770) 271-4210 or (770) 712-9560 <a href="mailto:w4rlg@bellsouth.net">w4rlg@bellsouth.net</a></p> <p><b>First Sunday, EVEN Months</b> 2 pm (Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec) VEC: WCARS Hall County EOC 470 Crescent Dr. Gainesville, Ga. Perry Roper, KO4RD (770) 536-3056</p> <p><b>Second Saturday</b> 10:00 AM Alpharetta North Park, Adult Activities Center 13450 Cogburn Rd, Alpharetta, GA 30004 Ian Kahn, KM4IK E-mail: <a href="mailto:km4ik.ian@gmail.com">km4ik.ian@gmail.com</a></p> <p><b>Second Saturday, ODD Months</b> VEC: ARRL 8:30 a.m. GMC Community Ctr 5325 Leon St. Stone Mountain, GA Frank Haynes, KV4SP (678) 467-3712</p> <p><b>Second Sunday</b> VEC: W5YI 2 pm Fire Station #24 Mall of Georgia Boulevard Buford, GA 30519 Contact: Dave Bruse, W4DTR E-mail: <a href="mailto:exams@gars.org">exams@gars.org</a></p> <p><b>Third Saturday</b> VEC: W5YI 2 pm (Except December) Lifeway Church 1654 Atlanta Highway #109 Steve Donellan, N5SMD (404) 520-0368 E-mail: <a href="mailto:n5smd@comcast.net">n5smd@comcast.net</a></p> <p>(cont. next column)</p>	<p>We had five applicants at our January Ham Exam:</p> <p>3 new Technicians 2 upgrades to General</p> <p>The following VE's were present to conduct the testing;</p> <p>Chuck McCord, KK4TKJ, Co-CVE Frank Haynes, KV4SP Dave Bruse, W4DTR, CVE Don Bagley, KK4NJM, Co-CVE Bill Cherepy, WB4WTN Andre' Steyn, W7ALS</p> <p>73,</p> <p><i>Sid Weaver, N4NQ, Co-CVE</i></p> <p>GARS VE Team Leader E-mail: <a href="mailto:exams@gars.org">exams@gars.org</a></p> <p>GARS VE Website: <a href="http://groups.yahoo.com/group/GARS_VE_Team/">http://groups.yahoo.com/group/GARS_VE_Team/</a></p> 	<p><b>First Tuesday</b> Kennehoochee ARC Downtown Marietta Fire Station #1, Training Room 112 Haynes Street Marietta, Georgia 30060 Meeting begins at 7:00pm Talk In 146.880(-)</p> <p><b>First Thursday</b> Atlanta Radio Club Georgia Red Cross HQ 1955 Monroe Dr., Atlanta Meeting is at 7:30pm Talk In -146.820(-) N.E. Georgia ARC Commerce Public Library Meeting is at 6:30pm Talk In - 147.225(+) PL 123.0</p> <p><b>Second Monday</b> Georgia Tech ARC Room W218 Van Leer Electrical Engineering Bldg. Georgia Tech Campus Meeting at 7:00pm</p> <p><b>Second Thursday</b> Alford Memorial Radio Club Annistown Road Baptist Church Intersection of Annistown Rd &amp; Spain Rd Stone Mountain Dinner at 6:00pm Meeting at 7:30pm Talk In - 146.760(-)</p> <p><b>Second Saturday</b> North GA QRP Club Board Room of The Shepherd Center at 2020 Peachtree Rd, NW, Atlanta at 10:00 AM</p> <p><b>Third Tuesday</b> North Fulton Amateur Radio League Alpharetta Recreation &amp; Parks Dept Alpharetta Adult Activity Center 13450 Cogburn Road Alpharetta, GA 30004 meeting at 7:30pm Talk In - 145.47(-) For more, go to: <a href="http://www.gars.org/">http://www.gars.org/</a></p>

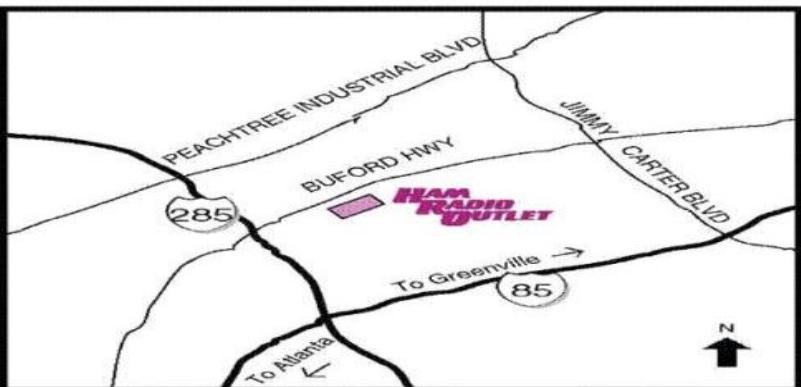
## WORLD WIDE DISTRIBUTION



Mark Holmes  
Manager  
KJ4VO

6071 Buford Highway  
Atlanta, GA 30340 (Doraville)  
770-263-0700 1-800-444-7927  
Fax: 770-263-9548  
e-mail: [atlanta@hamradio.com](mailto:atlanta@hamradio.com)  
hours: 10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat.

John, KI4LMA      Bill, W5RQR      David, AI4XL  
Jim, N1ABM      Josh, W4JDH      Brian, WD4DX



Alinco  
Icom  
Japan Radio Corp.  
Premier  
ADI  
Yaesu  
Alpha Delta  
Arrow  
Butternut  
Create  
Kenwood  
Tarheel  
Heil  
West Mountain

Cushcraft  
Diamond  
Force 12  
Hustler  
Hy-Gain (Telex)  
KLM  
Larsen  
M2  
Valor  
Van Gorden  
MFJ  
Ameritron  
Comet

**INTERBOROREFRIGERATION**  
**HVAC/R**

All branch Ice Machine

Licensed by E.P.A

Central A/C • Heater and Water Heater

All Commercial Refrigeration Systems

Ice Cream Freezer

All Jobs Guaranteed

Walk-in Box Cooler

Reparation & Maintenance

Luis Castellanos  
owner

Address: 470 Bay lake pass,  
Lawrenceville.GA 30046

Tel.: 610-816-8744

Email: [l-piloto52@hotmail.com](mailto:l-piloto52@hotmail.com)

*30 years of Experience*

**Finally**  
A clog-free gutter  
with no fine print.

The Real  
**GUTTER PROTECTOR**  
NO CLOGS, NO OVERFLOW, GUARANTEED.

You'll never have to clean your gutters again. The Real Gutter Protector's Waterloov® System uses a patented design that slows water more effectively and draws water in more completely, with smaller openings that keep out more debris. <http://www.realgutterprotector.com>

Atlanta, Georgia - (770) 630-1582

### Real Estate Broker



#### SHARON ADCOCK

*CRS, GRI, e-Pro,  
Relocation Expert,  
Associate Broker*

[www.SharonAdcock.com](http://www.SharonAdcock.com)  
2920 Ronald Reagan Blvd  
Cumming, GA 30041



Buying\*Selling\*Investing  
For Any Real Estate  
Matters

There has never been a  
better time to invest in Real  
Estate

**Inventory is LOW  
It's a Seller's Market**

Sharon@  
[SharonAdcock.com](http://SharonAdcock.com)  
Cell: 404-428-9127  
eFax 678-679-1383